What is claimed is:

1. An image synthesizing apparatus for producing a synthetic image from at least first and second images, wherein the synthetic image consists of a background image and at least a main image superimposed on the back ground image, said apparatus comprising:

a first display section for displaying said at least first and second images one by one upon each of said images being selected from among images input in said image synthesizing apparatus;

a second display section for displaying an outer frame and at least an inner frame located inside said outer frame;

a frame selecting device for selecting one of said outer and inner frames as displayed in said second display section;

a crop boundary displayed on said image in said first display section, said crop boundary having a similar shape to the frame that is selected by said frame selecting device;

a frame modifying device for modifying any of said outer and inner frames by homothetically changing size or position of said crop boundary relative to the image displayed in said first display section; and

a cropping and pasting device for cropping those areas of said first and second images that are each individually bounded by said crop boundary, and pasting the cropped area of said first image as the background image in said outer frame, and the cropped area of said second image as the main image in said inner frame.

2. An image synthesizing apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein said outer and inner frames are rectangular, and said image synthesizing apparatus further comprises a device for enabling changing aspect ratio of any of said outer and inner frames.

3. An image synthesizing apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein where the synthetic image is to have a plurality of main images which overlap with each other, data designating an order of displaying a plurality of inner frames from the front of the synthetic image is allocated to each inner frame.

4. An image synthesizing apparatus as recited in claim 3, wherein among the plurality of inner frames, one having an image pasted later is placed forward.

5. An image synthesizing apparatus as recited in claim 3, wherein the order of arrangement of said inner frames from the front of the synthetic image may be modified appropriately.

6. An image synthesizing apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein said frame selecting device automatically selects said outer frame immediately after said outer and inner frames are displayed in said second display section.

7. An image synthesizing apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein said frame modifying device may modify the position

or the size of any of said outer and inner frames even after an image is pasted in said outer frame or said inner frame.

8. An image synthesizing apparatus as recited in claim 1, further comprising an image quality control device for controlling quality of an image before or after said image is pasted in said outer frame or said inner frame.

9. An image synthesizing apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein where the main image is to have a non-rectangular contour, a trimming frame of the non-rectangular contour is displayed in said subsidiary display area inside said inner frame, said inner frame having a rectangular shape that circumscribes said trimming frame, and an area having a similar shape to said inner frame is cropped out from said second image, and pasted in said inner frame after pixels of marginal portions of said cropped area which are outside said trimming frame are deleted or converted into transparent pixels.

10. An image synthesizing apparatus as recited in claim 1, further comprising a memory for storing the synthetic image as a set of image data of those images pasted in said outer and inner frames, and location data representative of position of said inner frame relative to said outer frame.

11. An image synthesizing apparatus as recited in claim 10, wherein where the synthetic image has a plurality of main images which overlap with each other, data indicating the

sequence of arrangement of the main images from the front of the synthetic image is stored in addition to said location data.

12. An image synthesizing apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein another image may be pasted in any of said outer and inner frames in place of a previously pasted image.

13. An image synthesizing apparatus as recited in claim 1, further comprising a memory for storing the synthetic image as a single image data file.

14. An image synthesizing apparatus as recited in claim 1, further comprising a template selecting device for selecting a template from among a plurality of options, wherein said outer and inner frames are determined by the selected template.

15. An image synthesizing apparatus as recited in claim 14, wherein samples of said plurality of template options are displayed in a small size on said control screen before one of the templates is selected.

16. An image synthesizing apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein said first and second display sections are arranged side by side on a same control screen.

17. An image synthesizing apparatus as recited in claim 16, wherein an operating section for operating said image

synthesizing apparatus is displayed on the same control screen as said first and second display section.